

What is claimed is:

1. An input apparatus which serves as an input interface for other electronic devices comprising:

an input surface comprising:

5 a plurality of pressure sensitive sensors which are adapted to track the movement of an implement which comes exerts pressure on said input surface;

such that pressure exerted on said input surface by a user using the implement activates at least one of said sensors which provides at least one line thus defining a trace path;

10 a memory having a database which serves to store said trace path;

association means for associating said trace path with a symbol that is known to the user thus providing an association;

output means for transmitting said symbol to said input apparatus.

2. The input apparatus of claim 1 wherein said input surface further

15 comprises a series of interconnected channels which serves to guide said implement along said sensors.

3. The input apparatus of claim 2 wherein the implement is a stylus.

4. The input apparatus of claim 2 wherein the implement is the finger of the user.

20 5. The input apparatus of claim 2 wherein the most recent trace path is at least partially illuminated.

6. The input apparatus of claim 5 wherein the symbol which said trace path is associated corresponds to a glyph selected from the group consisting of

characters of any language, numerical characters, mathematical symbols and other symbol well known to the user.

7. The input apparatus of claim 5 wherein the symbol which trace path is associated corresponds to at least one command that activates a device that is
5 connected to said output means of said input apparatus.

8. The input apparatus of claim 7 wherein said device is a computer.
9. The input apparatus of claim 8 wherein said device is a mobile telephone.

10. The input apparatus of claim 1 wherein said sensors of said input
10 surface is a plurality of micro-switches.

11. The input apparatus of claim 1 wherein said input surface is a touchpad.

12. The input apparatus of claim 10 wherein said input surface is integrated in the traditional keypad of a telecommunication device.

15 13. The input apparatus of claim 12 wherein the micro-switches and keys of the phone keypad lay virtually flat and wherein the micro-switches are activated by substantially less pressure being place thereon than the pressure required to activate said keys such that a trace path can be obtained without activating any of said keys.

20 14. The input apparatus of claim 6 wherein said trace path that is associated with a glyph does not have to bear any resemblance to character that is customarily associated with the shape of said trace path, thus the "O" shaped trace path can be associated with the "I" character.

15. The input apparatus of claim 1 wherein said trace path is associated with a plurality of multiple symbols.
16. The input apparatus of claim 1 further comprising biometric data capture means for measuring the speed and pressure of said trace path which provides a speed and pressure set which is stored in said memory as said trace path is being implemented onto said input surface wherein the user can be identified by the relatively unique speed and pressure dataset.